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Russian Federation

Grain and Feed

Grain and Oilseeds Products Subject to Quality Control at Russian Border

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Report Highlights:

Russia's Federal Service for Veterinary and Phytosanitary Surveillance and the Federal Customs Service updated the list of grains, oilseeds and their products that require quality certification.

Includes PSD Changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Trade Report
Moscow [RS1]
[RS]

Executive Summary

Russian quality certificates are required for all domestic and international transactions involving grain and oilseeds and their products. Russia developed these standards under a centralized planning regime, and consequently the Russian standards differ from international norms. Russia's Independent State Grain Inspectorate controlled Russian quality standards until 2005. In 2006, the Federal Service for Veterinary and Phytosanitary Surveillance (VPSS) replaced the State Grain Inspectorate, and used accredited agencies to certify the quality of grains¹. These accredited agencies were internal to VPSS, however, and the preferential treatment proved problematic for the organization. In January 2007, the Russian Federal Anti-Monopoly Service determined that VPSS violated Russian anti-monopoly law by failing to register independent surveying companies for grain quality certification². Since the discovery of the violation, however, the situation has not changed. Grain quality certification remains an expensive, time consuming and relatively opaque procedure. For international transactions, grain and oilseeds traders also certify the quality of their products in accordance with international standards. This double quality certification increases business costs, and ultimately the price of product.

The list of commodities requiring quality certificates for importation or exportation is provided below. As of February 2007, VPSS and the Federal Customs Service updated the list with two changes. First, they agreed to exclude the category "Flours, meals and pellets, of meat or meat offal, of fish or of crustaceans, mollusks or other aquatic invertebrates, unfit for human consumption; greaves (cracklings)" (TN VED Code of Russia³ 2301), and second, the wording for products from HS 2309 from "Other products, used for feeding productive animals, including feeds from mixtures of cereals for non-productive animals" to "Compound feeds used in feeding productive animals" Official Russian customs data provided the approximate value of imports and exports of grain and oilseeds and their products that are subject to VPSS certification.⁴

Based on official customs data from July 2006 to June 2007, VPSS certified more than \$3.2 billion of imported and exported agricultural products; including \$942.1 million worth of imported products, and more \$2.2 billion worth of exports.

¹ For more information on the transfer of Grain Inspectorate's functions to VPSS see GAIN reports RS4066 *Demise of the State Grain Inspection Service*, RS5017 *Temporary Retrieve for Grain Exports*, RS5065 *Grain Certification News*, RS6013 *Last Farewell to the Russian State Grain Inspectorate*.

² On the status of accreditation of grain quality control laboratories see GAIN reports RS6062 *Grain Surveyors Accuse VPSS of Antitrust Violation*, RS7010 *Russian Grain Inspection Update*.

³ TN VED Code of Russia is an abbreviation of Customs' Nomenclature of Foreign Economic Activity of Russia. This code is close, but may not equal the U.S. Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HS number)

⁴ The period July 2006 through June 2007 was chosen based on the availability of most recent monthly data. Additionally, this period matches marketing year's period for grain and products, and close to marketing year for oilseeds.

List of Grains and Grain Products Subject to VPSS's Quality Control at the Border

	Name (description) of grain, mixed feeds and components for their production, and indirect by-products of grain processing	TN VED Code of Russia	Imports (July 2006 – June 2007), 1,000 USD	Exports (July 2006 – June 2007), 1,000 USD
I. Leguminous Vegetables. Chapter 07				
1.	Peas	0713 10 900 0	2,224	13,661
2.	Chickpeas (garbanza), except seeds of a kind used for sowing	From 0713 20 000 0	188	3,737
3.	Beans of the species <i>Vigna mungo</i> (L.), Hepper or <i>Vigna radiata</i> (L.) Wilchek, except seeds of a kind used for sowing	From 0713 31 000 0	70	-
4.	Small red (adzuki) beans (<i>Phaseolus</i> or <i>Vigna angularis</i>), except seeds of a kind used for sowing	From 0713 32 000 0	-	-
5.	Kidney beans, including white pea beans	0713 33 900 0	8,898	86
6.	Lentils, except seeds of a kind used for sowing	From 0713 40 000 0	685	271
7.	Broad beans, or horse beans [<i>Vicia faba</i> var. <i>major</i> , and <i>Vicia faba</i> var. <i>equina</i> , and <i>Vicia faba</i> var. <i>minor</i>], except seeds of a kind used for sowing	From 0713 50 000 0	-	1,043
II. Cereals. Chapter 10				
1.	Durum wheat, other wheat, spelt and meslin ¹	1001 10 000 0 1001 90 990 0	79,462	1,706,549
2.	Rye, except seeds of a kind used for sowing	From 1002 00 000 0	2,600	4,731
3.	Barley	1003 00 900 0	53,877	244,575
4.	Oats, except seeds of a kind used for sowing	From 1004 00 000 0	-	545
5.	Corn	1005 90 000 0	26,244	12,636
6.	Rice	1006 (except 1006 10 100 0)	84,597	8,622
7.	Grain Sorghum	1007 00 900 0	-	1
8.	Buckwheat	1008 10 000 9	-	6,136
9.	Millet	1008 20 000 9	-	5,439
10.	Canary seeds	1008 30 000 0	21	0
11.	Other cereals, except seeds of a kind used for sowing	From 1008 90	50	10
III. Products of the milling industry; malt; wheat gluten. Chapter 11				
1.	Cereal groats, meal and pellets	From 1103	8,939	8,964
2.	Cereal grains otherwise worked (for example, hulled, rolled, flaked, pearled, sliced or kibbled), except rice of heading 1006; germs of cereals, whole, rolled, flaked or ground	1104	9,550	12,148
3.	Malt, whether or not roasted	1107	42,559	27,558
4.	Wheat gluten, whether or not dried	1109 00 000 0	2,138	6,996
IV. Oilseeds and Oleaginous Fruits. Chapter 12				
1.	Soybeans, whether or not broken	1201 00	12,064	4,703
2.	Peanuts, not roasted or otherwise cooked, whether or not shelled or broken	1202	78,863	1
3.	Flaxseed (linseed), whether or not broken	1204 00	747	11,768
4.	Rape or colza seeds, whether or not broken	1205	4,304	21,918
5.	Sunflower seeds, whether or not broken	1206 00	48,195	37,109

	Name (description) of grain, mixed feeds and components for their production, and indirect by-products of grain processing	TN VED Code of Russia	Imports (July 2006 – June 2007), 1,000 USD	Exports (July 2006 – June 2007), 1,000 USD
6.	Cotton seeds	1207 20	0	0
7.	Castor-oil plant seeds	1207 30	0	0
8.	Sesame seeds	1207 40	5,631	15
9.	Mustard seeds	1207 50	96	8,460
10.	Safflower seeds	1207 60	0	0
11.	Poppy seeds	1207 91	25,501	87
12.	Hemp seeds	1207 99 910 0	-	-
13.	Other oil seeds	1207 99 980 0	373	2,580
V. Preparations of Cereals. Chapter 19				
1.	Prepared foods obtained by the swelling or roasting of cereals or cereal products (for example, cornflakes); cereals (other than corn (maize)) in grain form or in the form of flakes or other worked grains (except flour, groats and meal), pre-cooked or otherwise prepared, not elsewhere specified or included:	1204	747	11,768
VI. Residues And Waste From The Food Industries; Prepared Animal Feed. Chapter 23				
1.	Bran, sharps (middlings) and other residues, whether or not in the form of pellets, derived from the sifting, milling or other working of cereals or of leguminous plants	2302	4,366	5,839
2.	Residues of starch manufacture and similar residues	2303 10	16,174	-
3.	Oilcake and other solid residues, whether or not ground or in the form of pellets, resulting from the extraction of soybean oil	2304 00 000	193,630	0
4.	Oilcake and other solid residues, whether or not ground or in the form of pellets, resulting from the extraction of peanut (ground-nut) oil	2305 00 000 0	0	0
5.	Oilcake and other solid residues, whether or not ground or in the form of pellets, resulting from the extraction of vegetable fats or oils, other than those of heading 2304 or 2305			
	- of cotton seeds	2306 10 000 0	-	-
	- of linseed	2306 20 000 0	-	7
	- of sunflower seed	2306 30 000 0	1,979	79,813
	- of low euricic acid rape or colza seeds	From 2306 41 000 0	-	7,270
	- other of rape or colza seeds	2306 49 000 0	-	1,115
	- of germs of corn	2306 70 000 0	-	-
	- other	2306 90	0	23
6.	Vegetable materials and vegetable waste, vegetable residues and byproducts, whether or not in the form of pellets, of a kind used in animal feeding, not elsewhere specified or included	2308 00	193	413
7.	Compound animal feeds used for feeding productive animals	From 2309 90	227,130	6,993

ⁱ The Russian text reads as "Hard wheat, Soft wheat, spelt and meslin". Terms "Hard" and "Soft" mean that quality requirements are based on the Russian domestic standards on wheat.